Dr. A. R. Menon *(Pallippuram).*—That is for giving retrospective effect.

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—If the constables receiving Rs. 12 and who have 20 years of service to their credit are to be given the benefit, in effect very nearly about Rs. 14,000 will be necessary. And I am sure that will be about the figure which will be arrived at if the Hon'ble Mover calculates it correctly. As regards the time-scale, it will be very difficult to withhold an annual increment. Grade promotion is always easy, as far as I know, because I believe in efficiency. It is possible to know whether a man deserves promotion or not, but it is not easy to find out whether a person deserves the stopping of an annual increment of Re. 1 or not. Efficiency will suffer if time-scale is adopted.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ *(Ezhuva North).*— ഒ കൊ ല്ലമൊ അതിലധികമൊ സർവ്വീസുള്ളവക്ക . . . . .

Mr. President.—The Commissioner refuses to accept the time-scale. If it is accepted how is it possible to give effect to promotions by efficiency. You say for every five years one increment may be given. But the Commissioner questions the principle itself.

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Police Commissioner).*—I am not raising any new objection now. The non-official Members have themselves raised this point when the Police Reorganisation was taken up in the Council before.

Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

Constitutional of Model Rural Reconstruction Farms in the State.

Mr. A. Narayana Menon *(Vyttila).*—"*This Council recommends to the Government that model rural reconstruction farms be constituted and worked in suitable centres of the State*".

Sir, I regard this as one of the most important subjects that deserve our best attention. A perusal of the latest Census report of the State will convince any one that the problem of unemployment in Cochin is a problem that calls for early attention and speedy solution. Imperial Table X attached to the report says that out of a total population of 12,05,016 in the State, 5,90,965 or 49 per cent are nonworking dependants. When the author of the report says that the working population returned at the Census contains a not insignificant proportion

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of persons who have been unemployed for indefinite periods of times, of people whose earnings, though regular and steady, are next to nothing, and those whose name is 'Retired leisure or Idle Luxury', when we give due importance to the play of sentiments which actuated many to call themselves *earners* while they were really unemployed, the figures in the table indicated above would be found to call for material alteration. The economic depression that came to stay in the land, since the submission of the report has made matters worse and one will not be far in the wrong if one risks the prediction that at least 2/3 of the population in the land is unemployed. The magnitude of the problem can be visualised properly only when we take stock of the facts that habitable areas in the land come only to 865 square miles and that the density of population per square mile is 1400. Past experience and present day difficulties make one pessimistic of getting rid of any appreciable portion of this over population by emigration to other places. So we have to solve this big problem ourselves. Of the *earners* a large portion is engaged in agriculture. With the abnormal fall in agricultural products, agriculture has become not a very attractive profession. As Professor V. T. Sreedhara Menon has put it. "The recent tendency in progressive countries has been to provide more work for the people in industries and subsidiary occupations and to limit the number employed in agriculture, it being recognised that the employment of more than a limited number of persons in agriculture tends to reduce the average income of the individual and the aggregate income of the nation as a whole..... The necessity for limiting the people employed in agriculture is all the more important in creation since the pressure of population on the land is far above what in normally obtained in most other places in India". Mr. C. K. Menon in a recent issue of the 'Cochin Chronicle' says: "In our country population has multiplied and wants have increased, but the means of production have been neglected and the habit of buying without any attempt at working is slowly but surely sapping up even the meagre resources of the country" As the same writer observes in another part of the article, "a happy combination of agricultural and industrial occupation for the rural population can be provided and in the matter of products also one section conserve the other... ... ... Productive schemes must take the place of almost dead capital and wealth must pass through material and machines until it reaches man in the form of wages, good food and good health".

As a sure means of gaining the above ends I want the Government to constitute model rural re-construction farms in suitable centres of the State. I need not elaborate very much on this subject. There are many cottage industries in the State which require our immediate attention and proper encouragement. Some of them are catalogued by Professor

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Sreedhara Menon on page 206 of the August issue of the Maharaja's College Magazine. They are classified under two heads, viz., those for boys and those for girls. They are

For boys

1. Agriculture.
2. Metal working-smithing, agricultural tool, etc.
3. Manufacture of metal vessel,—copper, brass, bell-metal etc.,
4. Electro-plating.
5. Hand-spinning and weaving.
6. Carpet making, mat, basket and rope making.
7. Flour milling.
8. Rice milling.
9. Oil Mills.
10. Food products-fruit and vegetable preservation, drinks, aerated water, bakery, pastry, sweets etc.,
11. Cigarettes and bidis.
12. Brick and tile work.
13. Carpentary—furniture, wood work, cart manufacture, musical instrument making etc.,
14. Leather works—shoes, boxes etc,
15. Beekeeping.
16. Toys.
17. Vegetable dyes, inks, etc.
18. Paints, varnishes etc.
19. Pencil and crayon (for black board) manufacture.
20. Buttons.
21. Soaps.
22. Starches.
23. Enamelled ware.
24. Printing.
25. Book-Binding.
26. Building.
27. Fishery.
28. Fertilisers.
29. Live stock raising, and dairying.
30. Match manufacture.
31. Paper—handmade.
32. Automobile engineering- motor body building, vulcanising etc.
33. Tailoring and upholstery.
34. Sugar manufacture.
35. Pottery.

For Girls.

1. Agriculture.
2. Hand spinning and weaving.
3. Carpet, mat, basket, and rope making.
4. Food products - bakery, pastry, sweets etc.
5. Bee Keeping.

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6. Toys.
7. Live stock raising and dairying.
8. Paper - handmade.
9. Dress making, - stockings, socks, knitted woollen goods collars, ties, banians, caps, hats etc.
10. Laundry work.
11. Tailoring.
12 Embroidery and Lace work.

This list shows that we need not labour for want of openings. Proper training alone is needed. A well-organised rural reconstruction farm can impart useful practical training in these subjects and others, which would provide work for many. In Marthandam, a model rural reconstruction farm is worked successfully and it is high time that we also take up similar works. Here I should like to anticipate and answer a possible objection that people who have had vocational training have not made proper use of the training that they had by starting cottage industries of their own. This is due mainly to the inability to find any funds to make at best a start. For this disability the State has to a large extent to come to the rescue; I am glad that some provisions for State-aid are made in the rules framed under the Cochin State Aid to Industries Regulation, X of 1111. But these provisions are not sufficient. "To keep the small scale industrialists", says Professor Sreedhara Menon, "the State may have a central development Committee something like the Brain Trust of President Roosevelt-consisting of experts in all the different branches of industrial activity to deal with all problems concerned with production and distribution". The main question that we have to solve is how best to bring down the number of the unemployed in Cochin. The acceptance of this resolution and giving effect to it is one of the surest modes of solving the problem. We should not delay in adopting all possible remedies for rooting out the evil and so I request the House to accept this resolution without any division.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakudi).*—I second it.

The House rose for the day at 4-55 p. m.

B. V. KRISHNANKUTTY MENON,

Secretary to Council.

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